REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 8, 2004.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has required restriction between the following groups of claims:

Claim Group I comprising claims 1 – 38, drawn to a first processor blocking completion of a configuration cycle by a second processor or other device, classified in class 710, subclass 260; and

Claim Group II comprising claims 39 – 40, drawn to a general RAID system, classified in class 711, subclass 114.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute, **without** traverse, the invention of Claim Group I, comprising claims 1 – 38. Applicants respectfully request that the claims of Claim Group II, comprising claims 39 – 40, be retained in the subject application, without further action thereon, for possible filing of a divisional application directed thereto.

Applicants' above election is being made to advance prosecution, and should not necessarily be viewed as agreement or acquiescence by Applicants that the Examiner's requirement for restriction is proper and/or correct.
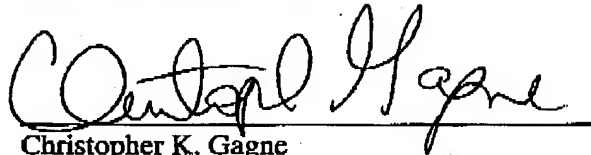
In the event that the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in the further disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at 480 715 4055.

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Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges occasioned by this submission to

Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/29/04

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